

Holiday/retreat accommodation

While the sale of our house in Hethel progresses (slowly!) our next door South Cottage (a self-catering holiday/retreat cottage) will be available until the end of August.

If anyone would like the opportunity of a short break or have family or friends visiting over the summer who would like to stay, please look at the KJT website for further details : www.kjt.org.uk

Peter and Cathy Nicholls

Church website <http://www.mulbchurch.org.uk>

This month's editor: Chris Carter Articles included in Mardle do not necessarily reflect the views of the church leadership

MARDLE

JUNE/JULY 2026

Mulbarton Benefice newsletter



FOLLOWING JESUS

Sharing the journey

WITH THE VILLAGES OF MULBARTON,
FLORDON, BRACON ASH AND HETHEL

Hi all

Welcome to a smaller edition of this months Mardle.

The Mardle does rely on contributions from all corners of the Benefice to make it a worth while newsletter.

So if you have anything for the August/September issue please consider sending it in.

With my co editor Sarah Miller leaving this month I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all she has done in respect of editing, collating, printing and distributing the Mardle to all four Churches and Hanover Gardens.

Our prayers go with her in her new journey.

If anybody feels that they could help with The Mardle, contributing or co-editing, we have 6 editions a year and split these between the editors, please contact me via my email chrismarinacarter@gmail.com

Chris Carter

Endings and Beginnings and a little Goodbye from Me.

Endings and beginnings seem to be the theme of the moment.

Liturgically, Ascension Day marks the end of Jesus' earthly ministry and Pentecost Sunday marks the beginning of the church, of people being the body of Christ on earth instead.

As the interregnum begins, the church enters a time of endings and beginnings too, processing goodbyes but also looking to the future and all that awaits.

At Ascension Jesus' followers were left dazed and confused, looking into the sky wondering what had happened.

At Pentecost they were knocked off their feet by something completely new. And the rest of the New Testament is them trying to work it all out, trying to catch up with what God was doing and their part in it.

We can take great encouragement from this, because we see that all endings and beginnings are held in the embrace of the Alpha and Omega, The beginning and The end, and God's thread weaves through them all. But, and this is an important but, it is also ok to feel a bit dazed and confused and on the back foot.

We are in good company!

I have always been deeply moved by the weight of history when I think of all the people who have met with faith in the churches in our villages over the centuries. How many prayers have been prayed? How many steps of faith taken? How many acts of love shared? How much forgiveness offered? How many endings lived through? How many beginnings encountered? How many vicars have been and gone? How many Sarah's have there been, and what were they like?!

Interregnum Help

In church life, there are always gaps to fill and opportunities to help, more so now we are in the interregnum.

Every service and event that you attend is run by volunteers. It would be such a shame if we fell into the pattern of being churches where the same few folks run everything. That would be sad.

Maybe you can take a reading, or lead the prayers, or make coffee, or wash up?

Perhaps you can clean the church or help with the flowers?

Maybe you are a musician?

Maybe you are a poet, or writer and could regular contribute to the Mardle?

Do you have a gift/ability that you would love to use in the church?

Please do be in touch with your church warden, a service leader or the new admin when in post, if you can step up to help during this time.

They would love to hear from you.

Mulbarton Community Pantry

If you can please do remember to pop a few items into the Community Pantry in Mulbarton Church Porch as you visit or pass.

Any tins, packets, jars, bottles welcome.



I like to put things in that go together —so I might pop some tea and biscuits in, pasta and a sauce, cereal and long life milk, tinned potatoes and tinned meat, tuna and sweetcorn.

But there are no rights or wrongs, other than no fresh produce. If it's something you enjoy eating someone else will too. And anything you can give is greatly appreciated and all items are taken quickly.

It's hard to imagine that we have need for such a facility here in Mulbarton but we do.

We have people visiting who, for **health or mental health** reasons, aren't able to work, so the food in the drawers is a real help.

We have **elderly people** visiting, living with difficult choices about how to spend their money, so what we offer is gratefully received.

We have **families** visiting, thrown off kilter with a child's illness so serious a parent has had to leave work, so the food donated is a lifeline.

And people visit when someone has unexpectedly **lost their job** and it takes time for other help to kick in, so the pantry bridges the gap.

Our Pantry is local, immediate and available.

Anything that anyone can ever put in there shows a little bit of love and a little bit of care and a little bit of support for our neighbours here in Mulbarton who need a little bit of extra help.

Thank you to those who have given and those who may now decide to.
You are such a blessing.

Endings and beginnings are part of life's journey, for us all, one way or another but may seem especially in focus just now.

By the time this finds its way to you I will have finished in my post as Church Administrator, and interviews will be on the way for the person who I am sure will more than fill my shoes. I wish them all the best.

I have loved this job, and it has been a privilege to serve you in this way here. There is so much I will miss, but it is time to sign off with a thankful heart and look to the new beginning that awaits us as a family.

So as a way of a goodbye from me, can I please offer this prayer—

Lord,

As we travel through this time of endings and beginnings, perhaps on a personal level as well as a benefice, may we know the steadfastness of your love holding us, your eternal presence anchoring us and your guidance finding us. Help us to trust that you are already there, waiting in the unknowns that lay before us.

May your peace ground us amongst the shifting sands.

And I pray that the you will all know Jesus with you as you travel on, that you will continue following and trusting, bringing your hopes and hurts, questions and epiphanies, your ups and down into your church, knowing that you are safe, held and seen there by one another and by him.

And may you know that, as God has been here, gathering with those who have gathered across the centuries, you are a part of the continuing offering of faith in this place and a continuation of God's heartbeat made known and visible in this precious little corner of the world.

May you be blessed and a blessing in equal measure.

Go well.

Amen.

Sarah Miller

Diary Pages

Please check all dates on our notice boards, website and regular emails for up to date information. If unsure contact one of your PCC members.

June

Mon 1	10.00am	Mulbarton Social Club: Community Hub
Thur 4	9.15am	Harvest House: Coffee and Prayer
Sun 7	9.00am 10.00am	Bracon Ash Church: Morning Prayer Mulbarton Church: All Age Service
Mon 8	10.00am	Mulbarton Social Club: Community Hub
Thur 11	9.15am 2.30pm	Harvest House: Coffee and Prayer Hanover Gardens: Mid week Communion
Sun 14	8.30am 10.00am	Hethel Church: Holy Communion Mulbarton Church: Morning Prayer
Mon 15	10.00am	Mulbarton Social Club: Community Hub
Thur 18	9.15am	Harvest House: Coffee and Prayer
Sun 21	9.00am 10.00am	Bracon Ash Church: Holy Communion Mulbarton Church: Holy Communion
Mon 22	10.00am	Mulbarton Social Club: Community Hub
Tues 23	2.00pm	Mulbarton Social Club: Mardlers
Thur 25	9.15am 10.30am	Harvest House: Coffee and Prayer Flordon Church: Holy Communion
Sun 28	10.30am 6.00pm 7.00pm	Hanover Gardens: Church @Hanover Harvest House: Together Meal Mulbarton Church: Together Service
Mon 29	10.00am	Mulbarton Social Club: Community Hub

July

Thur 2	9.15am	Harvest House: Coffee and Prayer
Sun 5	9.00am 10.00am	Bracon Ash Church: Holy Communion Mulbarton Church: Wild Church
Mon 6	10.00am	Mulbarton Social Club: Community Hub
Thur 9	9.15am 2.30pm	Harvest House: Coffee and Prayer Hanover Gardens: Mid Week Service
Sun 12	10.00am 6.30pm	Mulbarton Church: Morning Prayer Flordon Church: Evening Prayer
Mon 13	10.00am	Mulbarton Social Club: Community Hub
Thur 16	9.15am	Harvest House: Coffee and Prayer
Sun 19	9.00am 10.00am	Hethel Church: Morning Prayer Mulbarton Church: Holy Communion
Mon 20	10.00am	Mulbarton Social Club: Community Hub
Thur 23	9.15am 10.30am	Harvest House: Coffee and Prayer Hanover gardens: Mid Week Communion
Sun 26	10.30am 6.00pm 7.00pm	Hanover Gardens: Church@Hanover Harvest House: Together Meal Mulbarton Church: Together Service
Mon 27	10.00am	Mulbarton Social Club: Community Hub
Tues 28	2.00pm	Mulbarton Social Club: Mardlers
Thur 30	9.15am	Harvest House: Coffee and Prayer